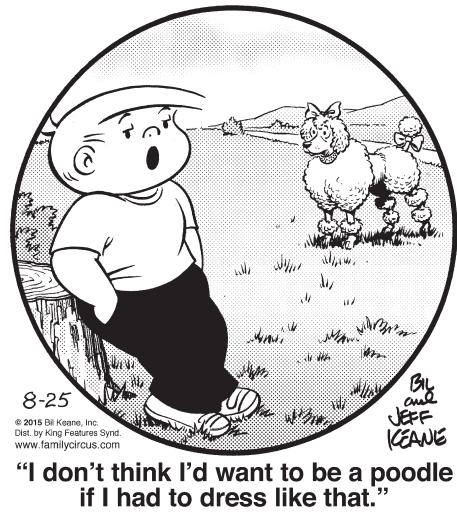
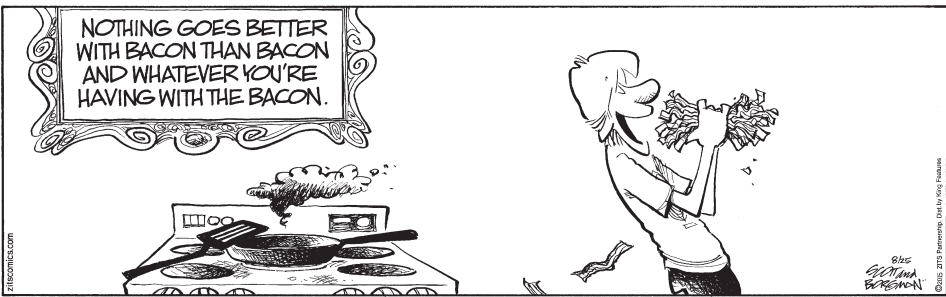


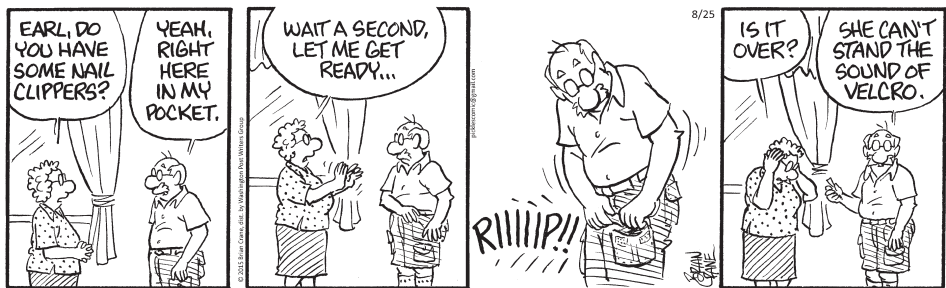
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



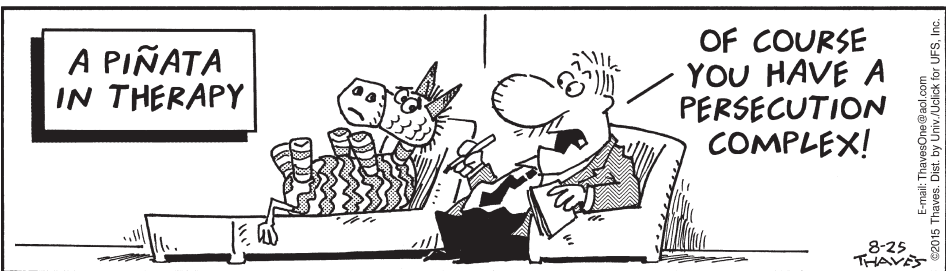
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



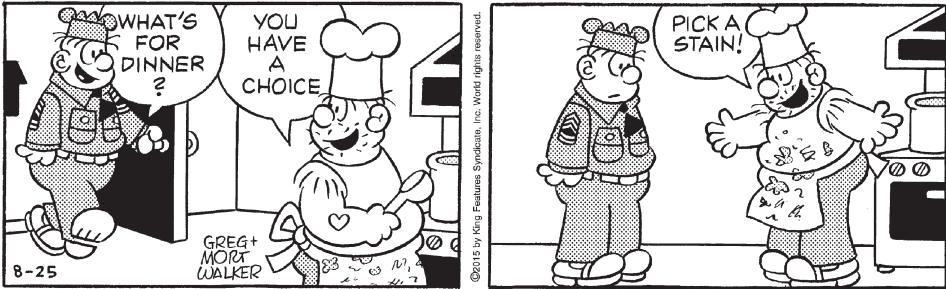
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



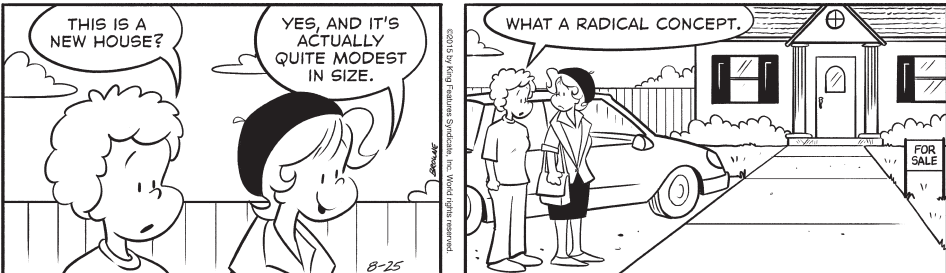
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



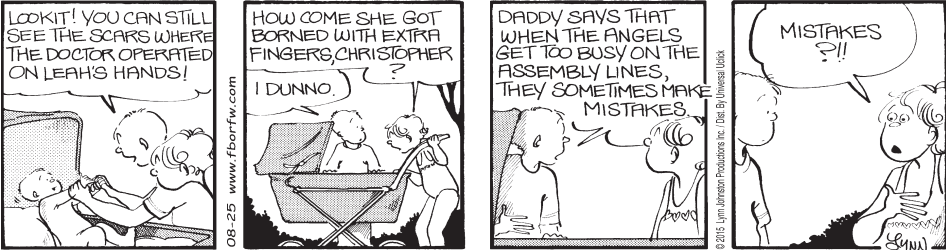
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



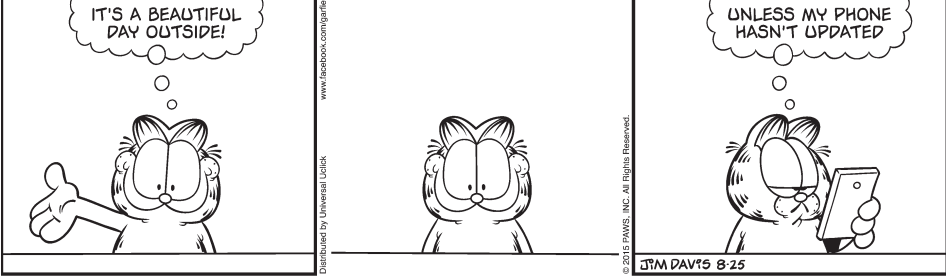
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Wife Won't Share Her Workday After Husband Shuts Her Out

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 36 years to a woman who is a pediatric physical therapist. A number of her youngsters are disabled or abused, and their lives can be a struggle. This results in emotional, intense workdays for my wife. She brings these stories home and shares them with me.

Over the years on three or four occasions, I have either told her I didn't care to hear an emotional story that day, or ignored her when she tried to tell me. The last time I said it was last year, and now she refuses to tell me anything about her workload. She's very stubborn, and although I am interested in what she does, she won't let me apologize. She says she will discuss it only with her fellow therapists at work.

Abby, what can I do to convey to her that I want to share her experiences? — REGRETFUL IN GEORGIA

DEAR REGRETFUL: If you haven't been able to get through to your wife by now, probably not much.

There's a saying that a joy shared is twice a joy and a burden shared is half a burden. When she tried to confide what was weighing on her mind or heart on those occasions, your response was, frankly, unkind. Further, if the treatment she's giving those children is covered by HIPAA regulations, it's possible that the only people she should talk to about them are her colleagues.

I wish I could be more helpful, but it looks like you may have to find another way to be intimate with your wife besides discussing her workload.

DEAR ABBY: As chairman of the American Institute of CPAs' Tax Executive Committee, may I offer some clarification to you and your readers about your answer in your July 13 column titled, "Couple Deep in Tax Hole Need Help in Climbing Out"?

In fact, THREE groups of tax preparers have unlimited practice rights under Depart-

ment of the Treasury regulations to represent their clients on any matters before the IRS — certified public accountants, attorneys and enrolled agents.

None are more qualified than CPAs. CPAs are licensed by state regulators and must meet minimum education requirements to sit for their national licensing exam and then fulfill ongoing continuing education requirements, as well as abide by a code of professional ethics. Attorneys have a generally similar system.

Enrolled agents are often former IRS employees who are licensed by the IRS after passing an exam. Enrolled agents are competent and respected tax professionals, but the fact they are licensed by the IRS does not mean they are better qualified or superior in serving clients than are CPAs or attorneys.

IRS.gov has a page explaining the different types of tax return preparers and their qualifications, which may be helpful to your readers. — TROY K. LEWIS, CPA

DEAR MR. LEWIS: Thank you for the clarification and for expanding my reply to that letter. It was not my intention to imply that CPAs are less qualified than enrolled agents — and if I created that impression, I sincerely apologize.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Virgo and a Moon in Sagittarius if born before 12:20 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Capricorn.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, AUG. 25, 2015:

This year you experience many special moments. You could be heading into a very unique year, where all your wishes will come true. Finally, you might feel as if all the years of hard work and diligence have paid off. Your birthday promises many positive moments. If you are single, you open up to offers from many potential suitors. Do not cut someone out of your life just because he or she is different; learn to be more accepting. If you are attached, this year will be significant to your relationship's history. You are likely to take a new step or enter a new phase together. This period will initiate a new life cycle for you. CAPRICORN adores you!

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:
5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

★★★ You might have enjoyed the excitement surrounding recent events, but the time has come to buckle down and play catch up. You have a lot to do, and it needs to be done ASAP. The sooner you dive in, the happier you will be. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You have an endless imagination when you decide to use it. Dive into your work and tap into your ingenuity in order to clear out what you can. Allow time for networking and socializing, as they will be stimulated by your creative abilities. Tonight: Let the party begin.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Someone will be knocking on your door, leaving you very little choice but to have a long-overdue conversation. Even if this person does not make the first move, know that the two of you will need to clear this matter up soon. Tonight: Dinner or munchies for two.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You will need to defer to someone else, even if you think you have a better idea. Understand that this person needs to see what happens and realize how successful his or her own ideas are. Give him or her the space to do just that. Tonight: Out and about.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Your efficiency is being tested far more than ever before. You could be full of energy and playfulness, yet you will need to muster as much self-discipline as possible. Lightness and productivity will be a winning combination for you. Tonight: Off to the gym.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Tap into your ability to get what you want. If you could wish upon a star, what would you wish for? Try to manifest a realistic goal by deciding to make it so. You will begin to see much more of what you can accomplish in the long run as a result. Tonight: You know what to do.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You have many demands on you that you haven't let others know about. When you are unavailable emotionally, it is often because of concerns involving this area of your life. You might be inspired to revitalize a diet or exercise habit. Tonight: Your home is your castle!

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★★ Reach out to others instead of waiting for them to reach out to you. You can play the waiting game like no other sign, but the real question is: Does this behavior really serve you? Listen to news openly, and be willing to make the first move. Tonight: Hang out.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You might be thinking about a financial decision and feel out of sorts. You like taking risks, but not to the point of setting yourself back. If you try to be conservative, you probably will like the outcome. Your intuitive side comes forward. Tonight: Reward yourself.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Take a deep breath. You might feel as if you are on top of the world right now. What you hope to accomplish is not far from reality. You can do no wrong! The planets are rooting you on. Tonight: Don't let anyone or anything stop you.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

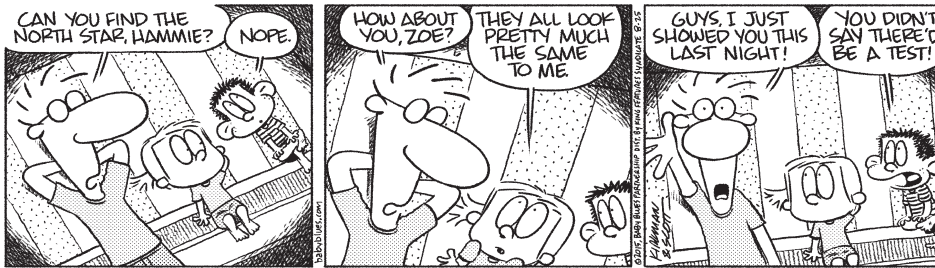
★★★★ You have pushed yourself as hard as you can. Investigate what is happening with a loved one with care. Avoid making judgments at the moment. All of the facts you are hearing need validation. More is happening than you originally thought. Tonight: Don't rush. Be methodical.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

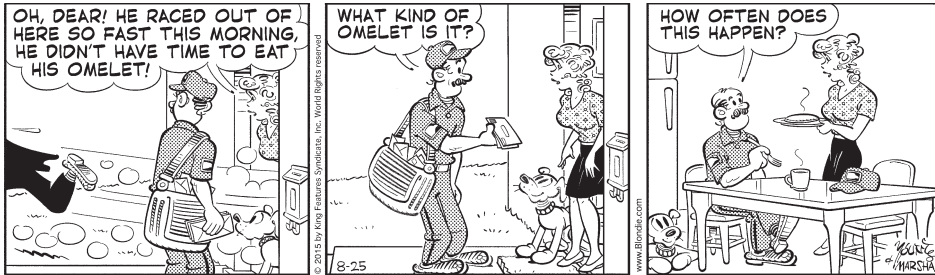
★★★★ Focus on what you want, and don't settle for anything less. Honor fast changes. You might not want the same things you once did. Listen to your gut. Nearly anything is possible, as long as you push toward that goal. Tonight: If you can dream it, you can manifest it.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

